

## 1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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3 Methods for extracting packetized data from a SONET/SDH  
4 signal include processing the signal to produce a deskewed data  
5 stream; demapping the data stream to produce a stream of packets;  
6 and temporarily storing the packets in a packet buffer, wherein  
7 the demapping is performed at a first rate when the fullness of  
8 the buffer is below a fullness threshold and the demapping is  
9 performed at a second rate when the fullness of the buffer is at  
10 or above the fullness threshold. Apparatus for performing the  
11 methods are also disclosed.